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Impact of Executive Order 12356 on  
Systematic Classification Review

Executive Order 12356 will realize negligible change in the quantity of information released to the public through systematic classification review when compared to E.O. 12065. With very minor exception, the information reviewed under the latter was returned to the Agency's Records Center for safekeeping and was not released to the public, even though it may have been declassified. Nevertheless, our relationships with our foreign liaison counterparts and their governments may be improved significantly by the perception that we are tightening our control over the release of sensitive information.

The impact of Executive Order 12356 is manifest primarily in the relief it provides in the demand for resources, both personnel and fiscal. Approximately 15 positions, primarily at the GS-07 and GS-13 levels, can be released for assignment to Agency tasks of higher priority. From the fiscal standpoint, expenditures estimated in the neighborhood of \$23 million can be avoided. This includes approximately \$4 million which would have been expended to support the 15 released positions from 1 August 1982 to the December 1988 transitional deadline called for by E.O. 12065. Had we been required to continue the program, and done so at current manpower levels, we would still have realized only one-third of the goal. Approximately \$19 million would have been required additionally if the decision were made to add the staff to meet fully the requirement of the order to complete a review of all 20-year-old material by <sup>THE DEADLINE</sup> ~~that~~ date. These cost avoidance estimates do not include the fiscal (and manpower) burden of continuing the program beyond December 1988 in the systematic review and periodic re-review of permanent records as promulgated by E.O. 12065.